



# THE STATE BAR OF CALIFORNIA

OFFICE OF THE STATE BAR COURT

180 HOWARD STREET, 6th FLOOR, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94105-1639

## STATE BAR COURT HEARING JUDGE FACT SHEET

The California Supreme Court's Applicant Evaluation and Nomination Committee is seeking qualified candidates to serve as a State Bar Court Hearing Judge.

The State Bar Court is the independent, adjudicative entity acting as an administrative arm of the California Supreme Court to hear and decide attorney disciplinary and regulatory proceedings and to make recommendations to the Supreme Court regarding those matters. The State Bar Court consists of a three-member Review Department and a Hearing Department composed of five full-time hearing judges in Los Angeles and San Francisco. The Hearing Department is the trial level of the State Bar Court. The salary of a State Bar Court Hearing Judge is currently \$137, 619 per year.

### Qualifications

A State Bar Court Judge:

- Shall have been a member of the State Bar of California for at least five years;
- Shall not have any record of the imposition of discipline as an attorney in California or any other jurisdiction; and
- Shall meet the requirements established by rule 961 of the California Rules of Court and Government Code section 12011.5 [industry, legal and judicial experience (including prior service as a judge of the State Bar Court), judicial temperament, honesty, objectivity, community respect, integrity, and ability].

### Job Description

The responsibilities of a State Bar Court Hearing Judge are to hear and decide attorney disciplinary and other State Bar regulatory cases, to make written recommendations to the Supreme Court regarding the imposition of discipline or other appropriate disposition in those matters which require Supreme Court action and to perform related

judicial duties. The duties of a hearing judge include: scheduling and holding status, settlement and pretrial conferences; hearing motions; scheduling and holding trials; writing decisions and orders detailing all material findings of fact and conclusions of law; and issuing other orders as necessary. Each hearing judge must manage his or her caseload expeditiously and efficiently.

In carrying out his or her duties, each State Bar Court judge is subject to the administrative direction of the Presiding Judge of the State Bar Court and must cooperate with other judges and court officials in the administration of court business, including preparing administrative reports and attending periodic judicial conferences.

### **Appointment and Term**

The State Bar Court Hearing Judge currently being sought will be appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules to a term that will commence upon appointment and that will end on October 31, 2010. The position will be located in San Francisco

State Bar Court Judges have the same immunity which attaches to judges of California courts of record and are subject, during their terms, to admonition, censure, removal or retirement upon the same grounds as provided for judges of courts of record.

### **Review and Rating of Applicants for Appointment**

Pursuant to rule 961 of the California Rules of Court, the Supreme Court has created the Applicant Evaluation and Nomination Committee to solicit, receive, screen and evaluate all applications for appointment or reappointment to any appointive position of judge of the State Bar Court. Only applicants found to be qualified by the Committee or by the Supreme Court may be appointed.

An extensive professional and personal history, references and background investigation, and personal interview may be required. Early applications are highly encouraged. **THE DEADLINE FOR RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS IS 5:00 P.M. ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2006.**

Application forms and questionnaires are available on the State Bar's website at [www.calbar.ca.gov](http://www.calbar.ca.gov). For further information or to request an application packet by mail, please write or call:

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